(b) if so, the quantum of crude oil sold to oil refineries during the said years by both the corporations;

(c) the quantum alongwith prices at which the said crude oil was sold during the each of the above years; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the prices of crude oil produced in the country were hiked in accordance with the rise in the prices of crude oil in international market?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd. (OIL) are the two national oil companies engaged in the production of crude oil in the country. Indian Oil Corporation do not produce any crude oil in the country.

The quantity of crude oil sold by ONGC and OIL to the oil refineries and the average price charged during 2002-03,2003-04 and 2004-05 are given below:—

Year	Quantity sold (MMT)		Average price* ($/bbl)	
	ONGC	Oil	ONGC	OIL
2002-03	22.364	2.801	28.53	27.27
2003-04	22.265	2.904	29.96	28.98
2004-05	22.426	3.103	43.24	41.36

MMT: Million Metric Ton
$/bbl: US Dollar per barrel
*Although crude oil prices are valued in terms of US $ per barrel, ONGC and OIL receive payments from oil refinery PSUs in equivalent rupees.

(d) Crude oil produced by ONGC and OIL is benchmarked to Nigerian sweet crude namely. Bonny Light and is linked to its international price subject to quality and other adjustments.

Paradeep Oil Refinery Project

4275. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that IOC propose to increase the capacity of Paradeep Oil refinery and build it as a petrochemical-cum-oil refinery;

(b) if so, the details of the action plan;

(c) the present status of the refinery project; and

(d) the time-frame within which the capacity of the above unit would be scaled up?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Feasibility of an integrated refinery cum petrochemical complex at Paradip, as against the stand-alone refinery planned earlier, is being examined by Indian Oil Corporation Limited along with a review of the capacity of the refinery to achieve economies of scale and export potential.

(c) and (d) A Detailed Feasibility Report (DFR) is expected to be ready by August, 2005 and the project is expected to be completed by 2009.

LPG users in Uttar Pradesh

4276. SHRI LALIT SURI:

DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of population of Uttar Pradesh presently being served by LPG;

(b) by when entire population in cities and towns with a population up to five thousand and more in the State is likely to be covered by LPG; and

(c) the details of plans formulated by Government oil companies for the years 2005 and 2006 towards achieving the above objective?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) As on 1.1.2005, it is estimated that about 33% of population in Uttar Pradesh was being served by LPG marketed through Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs).

(b) and (c) OMCs have the freedom to set up LPG distributorships based on their commercial assessment of any given location in the country. As the setting up of distributorships is a continuous process, not time limit can be prescribed for covering the entire population of any State. However, Government have advised OMCs to concentrate their future